

Approved October 14, 2015



**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, August 19, 2015, 9:30 AM

Utah Lake State Park

4400 W. Center Street, Provo, Utah 84601

**ATTENDEES:**

Richard Nielson, Chairman, Utah County Public Works  
Mike Mills, Vice-Chairman, Central Utah Water  
Conservancy District  
Scott Bird, Mapleton City  
Greg Beckstrom, Provo City  
Jordan Cullimore, Lindon City  
Hilary Arens, Department of Environmental Quality  
Jason Allen, Utah Division of Parks and Recreation  
Chris Keleher, Department of Natural Resources  
Kimber Gabryszak, Saratoga Springs City  
Matt Howard, Division of Wildlife Resources

Mike Pectol, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Reed Price, Orem City  
Laura Ault, Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands  
Ann Merrill, State Division of Water Resources  
Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission

**VISITORS:**

Mike Rau, Central Utah Water Conservancy District  
LaVere Merrit, Private Consultant  
Theron Miller, Jordan River and Farmington Bay Water  
Quality Council  
Dr. David Richards, Oreohelix Consulting

**ABSENT:** Santaquin City, American Fork City, Utah Lake Water Users, Lehi City, Springville City, Woodland Hills Town

**1. Welcome and introductions**

Richard Nielson called the meeting to order at 9:42 AM. Everyone introduced themselves.

**2. Review and approve minutes from the June 17, 2015 meeting**

A few typos from the minutes were pointed out. Greg Beckstrom made a motion to approve the minutes with those corrections. Chris Keleher seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes from the June 17, 2015 meeting.

**3. Round table updates from committee members**

Jason Allen thanked the commission for helping with the Military Appreciation Night at the State Park. He will be working on a news release about low water levels. Due to the low levels, they are delayed when they have to go out and help people. The news release will be a good way to remind people to take proper safety precautions.

Kimber Gabryszak said that they have a development going forward that will include a public park where non-motorized watercraft can be launched. They are working on the permit process.

Laura Ault said that there was a trespass in Saratoga Springs. A homeowner pulled out all of the trees on state land near their property. They also filled in part of the old canal in that area.

Dr. David Richards mentioned an intensive Mollusk study that he is working on at Utah Lake with the Jordan River/Farmington Bay Water Quality Council and the POTWs in the valley.

Theron Miller said he will be working on modeling for the next couple of years regarding water quality, nutrients, and algae blooms as they relate to TMDL at Utah Lake.

#### **4. Brief updates on Utah Lake issues, projects, and priorities**

- A. Lake Level: Jason Allen said that the lake is 5 ft. below full, which is lower than it ever was during 2014. People are still using the lake, but visitation is decreasing.
- B. Phragmites treatment: Eric Ellis displayed a map that showed which areas will be treated this year. Most of the areal spray will be done in the southwest corner of the lake. There will be spot treatments and follow up treatments at several locations around the lake.
- C. Carp Removal: Mike Mills said that June of 2015 was the best June to date. Over 19.5 million pounds have been removed overall. Annual carp density monitoring is going on right now. They will get the results later in the year.
- D. Provo Beach: Eric Ellis gave an update on this. Provo has put together a contract with Project Engineering Consultants to complete an economic impact analysis of the improvements at the park. This is the next step towards determining the feasibility of the project.
- E. Dock Amendment: Laura Ault provided an update on this. FFSL is deeding the trail to Saratoga Springs so that the city can be the adjacent landowner for any dock applications. They are working up on finishing up the deeding process. This will make the dock application process easier because there will only be one adjacent land owner instead of hundreds.
- F. Access Improvement: Matt Howard reported that signs were installed by DWR and FFSL at a lot of the access points to the lake. Stickers that show amenities and activities at each access point can potentially be added to the signs. Improvements will be done at Lebaron Point and Swede Lane this fall.
- G. Water Quality: Hilary Arens gave an update on this. The Division of Environmental Quality is going to start more extensive Utah Lake water quality studying. Nick Von Stackelberg is working on the model that will be used on the lake. There is a tentative "Kickoff" meeting scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> to present information about the plans and modeling that will be done. The first steps are to do a beneficial use assessment and to see if there is actually an impairment. They will be setting up some permanent water quality probes soon. There was some discussion about the water quality testing to clarify what DEQ will be testing for and what testing has been done in the past.
- H. Lake Projects updates by Eric Ells:
  - a. Sandy Beach: The Utah Lake Commission is working with Laura Ault, Richard Nielson, and the Nature Conservancy to add parking lot, restrooms, picnic tables, and fire rings to Sandy Beach. Hopefully this will change the area to become more family friendly instead of just a "Party Location". An application for the Waypoint Grant is being worked on to get funding for this project.
  - b. Skipper Bay Trail: Part of the Waypoint Grant includes trying to get picnic tables added to trail.
  - c. AF Boat Harbor: American Fork City is hoping to improve their marina by adding more parking space and possibly a beach area.
  - d. International Coastal Cleanup Day: September 19<sup>th</sup> is international coastal cleanup day, and there will be a Utah Lake Cleanup activity on that day.
- I. Nature/Research Center: This is a priority for the commission. The commission is trying to get funding to do a site analysis and a site plan for a nature center. A conceptual model has been done. Once the analysis and planning are done, the commission can start reaching out to potential partners such as universities and school districts.

1 **5. General comments from the committee members and the public**

2 Kimber Gabryszak asked for an update on quagga mussels. Mike Rau said that there have been no traces of quagga  
3 mussels found since October of 2014. Deer Creek still has to be monitored for a couple more years before it can be  
4 removed from the watch list.  
5

6 **6. Confirm next meeting time**

7 Richard Nielson announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.  
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9 **7. Adjourn.**

10 The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 AM.